

text messages to do the same thing. And in 2005, the Macomb County Clerk's office was recognized for providing free bus rides to jurors, while in 2016, they received an award for providing jurors with Uber rides to the court.

Those who know Carmella Sabaugh well, as I do, know that her excellence in public service is matched by the quality of her friendship. In the many years I have known her, I have deeply appreciated her warmth, kindness, and generosity of spirit.

Mr. Speaker, Carmella Sabaugh provided the people of Macomb County with truly outstanding service for 40 years. I encourage my colleagues to join me in expressing deep appreciation for all she has done, and in wishing her well in retirement.

#### HONORING JERRY THATCHER

#### HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 6, 2017*

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of a very special Kentuckian, Mr. Jerry Thatcher.

Mr. Thatcher spent 34 years as an educator in Bath County, Kentucky. He taught at Bethel Elementary and Bath County Middle School. He served as assistant principal at Owingsville Elementary School and as principal at Crossroads Elementary School. Mr. Thatcher also coached soccer, basketball, and tennis and sponsored the Beta Club and many science fairs. He was passionate about education and was a lasting influence on countless lives.

Following his retirement in 2016, Mr. Thatcher became involved in the Kentucky Patriot Guard Riders. While returning from his third mission, he tragically lost his life in an accident. He is survived by his wife Melanie, two sons, and two grandchildren. In memory of his exemplary life, a stretch of US 60 between two of the schools he served is being named the "Jerry Thatcher Memorial Highway."

Mr. Thatcher was a passionate educator, dedicated family man, follower of Christ, and patriotic American. I am honored to recognize the life of Mr. Jerry Thatcher before the United States House of Representatives.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO MEREDITH SHARP

#### HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 6, 2017*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor a young student from my district who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in her community. Meredith Sharp of Springfield has just been named one of the top honorees in Missouri by The 2017 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in each state and the District of Columbia.

Ms. Sharp is being recognized for raising over \$13,000 to provide new athletic shoes for all 311 students at a local elementary school in a low-income area of Springfield. She cre-

ated a nonprofit organization called "Just for Kicks," then began seeking donations in person and by mail from relatives, neighbors and business leaders. While she had hoped to collect enough money to buy shoes for one class of kids, she had collected enough for an entire school in just a matter of months.

It's vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contribution this young citizen has made. Young volunteers like Ms. Sharp are inspiring examples to all of us, and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

The program that brought this young role model to our attention—The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards—was created by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions are critically important and highly valued, and to inspire other young people to follow their example. Over the past 22 years, the program has become the nation's largest youth recognition effort based solely on community service, and has honored more than 115,000 young volunteers at the local, state and national level.

Ms. Sharp should be extremely proud to have been singled out from the thousands of dedicated volunteers who participated in this year's program. I wish Ms. Sharp luck with all her future endeavors, and urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating her on this momentous achievement.

#### VICTORIA MCCOLLUM

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 6, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Victoria McCollum for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Victoria McCollum is a student at Arvada West High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Victoria McCollum is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Victoria McCollum for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

#### LT. COL. AND STAFF

#### HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 6, 2017*

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize United States Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Molly Nelson and her entire Veterans Affairs staff. Lt. Col. Nelson is a Doctor in the Missouri VA Clinic and has dedicated

her life to healing and helping veterans who have risked their lives for our country.

Lt. Col. Nelson and her staff continuously go the extra mile for our veterans to make sure they get immediate and effective care. I am honored to share my gratitude and respect for this Missouri Clinic and their dedication and compassion are an inspiration to us all.

#### HONORING THEA MEI LEE, DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR THE AFL-CIO ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

#### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 6, 2017*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleagues, PETER A. DEFazio, DEBBIE DINGELL, KEITH ELLISON, MARCY KAPTUR, BARBARA LEE, SANDER M. LEVIN, JAMES P. MCGOVERN, BILL PASCRELL Jr., MARK POCAN, and ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT. It is our honor to join the many family, friends, and colleagues in extending our deepest thanks and appreciation to Thea Mei Lee, as she marks her retirement as Deputy Chief of Staff at the AFL-CIO.

Over the past twenty years, Thea has made an indelible impact on the AFL-CIO, fighting for trade and economic policies for working families that would promote shared prosperity and sustainable growth. Thea began working for the AFL-CIO in March 1997 as the Assistant Director for the Trade Task Force, and was subsequently promoted to the positions of Director of Public Policy, Chief International Economist and Deputy Chief of Staff.

Thea led the fight against harmful trade agreements and policies negotiated in a manner damaging to working people's interests, including the North American Free Trade Agreement, the Central American Free Trade Agreement, Permanent Normal Trade Relations with China, the World Trade Organization; the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement, the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement, the U.S.-China BIT, and many others.

Her work was instrumental to the defeat of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas, and the Multilateral Investment Agreement—harmful trade agreements that would have advanced profits over people and the planet.

She has testified on behalf of America's working people before both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. And, she has contributed valued work to the conversation around fair trade, including co-authoring A Field Guide to the Global Economy.

She has often made the case for a fair and inclusive economy—eloquently and passionately on the PBS News Hour, CNN, Good Morning America, and NPR's All Things Considered among others. In 2013, she was named a "Top Lobbyist" by The Hill.

Thea has fought to ensure that all workers around the globe are treated with dignity and afforded fundamental labor rights as recognized by the International Labor Organization. And, she has mobilized workers, helping turn out thousands of working people to protest unjust WTO policies at "The Battle in Seattle."

The AFL-CIO sets a national standard in the fight for working Americans, in large part